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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF SEDGEFIELD

ANNUAL
REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1959.



FERRYHILL.

Printed by A. Blamire and Son, Printers and Stationers,
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SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council 1959—1960:

Councillor J. CLELLAND, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor T. FLATMAN.

Councillors :

Coun. T. Attwood.	Coun. G. Lawson.
„ A. Birkbeck.	„ P. W. McCourt.
„ G. L. Bowen.	„ R. Mills.
„ S. Cutler (from 29/5/59).	„ Miss F. C. Naylor.
„ J. Dent.	„ J. H. Paling.
* „ T. Donnelly.	„ G. T. H. Pearson.
„ R. Ellis	„ E. Perks.
„ Mrs. N. Finlayson.	„ G. Ramsden
„ N. Gargett.	„ Mrs. E. Robinson.
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„ D. Guthrie.	„ T. Shields, B.E.M.
„ R. Hall.	„ J. T. Smith.
* „ R. W. Hardy.	„ T. Smith.
„ A. E. Hart.	„ E. Stapleton.
„ S. R. Haswell.	* „ Mrs. C. Stoddart.
* „ H. R. Hodgson.	„ G. W. Terrans (Sen.).
„ J. Hutchinson	„ G. W. Terrans (Jun.).
(resigned 18/9/59).	„ A. E. Tills,
„ A. Innes.	* „ J. J. Williams.
„ G. H. Johnson.	„ J. F. Wilson.
„ Mrs. M. Kendall.	

* Members of the No. 11 Area Health Sub-Committee.

Public Health Officers and Staff of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health, (Part-Time) . -

M. W. RODGERS, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Council Offices, Sedgefield, Stockton-on-Tees.
(Tel. Sedgefield 555).

Senior Public Health Inspector :-

E. CURRY, M.A.P.H.I., Certified Meat and Food
Inspector.

Public Health Inspectors :-

F. GARDNER, M.A.P.H.I., Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

E. M. PETCH, M.A.P.H.I., Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Assistant to Public Health Inspectors :-

W. KENNEDY.

Pupil Public Health Inspector :-

K. ROBSON (from 9/11/59,

Clerks :-

E. A. GALLAGHER.

Miss D. ICETON (Part-time).

COUNCIL OFFICES,
SEDFIELD,
STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the 82nd Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year 1959.

In this introductory letter I am not attempting, as in previous years, to summarise the contents of the report as I have made comments in each section, but rather to give a general picture of the health and sanitary circumstances and the progress made during the year.

Vital statistics allow a comparison to be made of the health of the inhabitants of the Sedfield Rural District and that of England and Wales. Although there was a slight fall in the birth rate and some increase in the death rate, these figures are not significant. On the other hand, the infant mortality rate fell considerably and an unusual feature was that no infant deaths occurred after the age of four weeks. This had the natural result of giving a high neo-natal death rate. Still births also decreased, giving a rate below the rate for the country, and these facts, combined with a nil maternal mortality rate, give a satisfactory statistical picture.

As regards infectious disease, measles, reached epidemic proportions but otherwise there was little to cause concern. Preventive measures against certain infectious diseases continued during the year—vaccination against poliomyelitis and smallpox, and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough. It is to be regretted that more advantage of poliomyelitis vaccination is not taken by the older age groups. Arrangements were completed at the end of the year for B.C.G. vaccination of eligible school children and older students, and at the time of writing this report the yearly programme for your district has been completed.

In this year's report I have for the first time given, in addition to information on the services provided by the Local Health Authority, the extent to which these services were utilised in your district throughout the year.

Included in the report are the numbers of bacteriological examinations made in the Public Health Laboratory, and I would again like to express my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation given by Dr. Blowers and his staff of the Middlesbrough Laboratory.

Turning to the section of the report dealing with the environmental circumstances I note that only four new houses were completed and occupied during the year, the smallest yearly number since building recommenced after the war. Whilst the progress made in the programme of slum clearance has done much to raise the general standard of housing fitness throughout the district I would, although I appreciate the economic position, like to see more houses built for ordinary needs to avoid the possibility of overcrowding caused by families "living in."

In conclusion, I wish again to thank the Council and the Clerk of the Council and his staff for their continued support and courtesy, and to thank the staff of the Health Department, and in particular Mr. Curry, the Senior Public Health Inspector, for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. W. RODGERS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area : 39,005 acres.

Population : 36,290.

Number of inhabited houses : 11,165.

Rateable Value : £342,024.

Sum represented by penny rate : £1,300 (at 1st April, 1960).

Comparability Factors.

Births : 1.04. Deaths : 0.99.

Main Industries and Employment.

Your district is not coterminous with the area of any particular employment exchange, but is covered by the exchanges at Spennymoor, Stockton and Wingate.

The chief industries are: Coal mining, coke ovens and by-products, limestone quarrying, hospital and public transport services, building, agriculture, dress manufacturing and general engineering.

Since no statistics exclusive to this district are available, it is difficult to make an accurate assessment of the employment situation. However, from the information supplied, it would seem that the number of unemployed during 1959 showed an increase over the preceding year, chiefly due to a programme of retrenchment by the National Coal Board causing limited redundancy mostly amongst the elderly workers at some of the principal collieries in the area. Some short time working and redundancy also occurred during the year at limestone quarries due to a lessened demand by the steel industry.

Although there were opportunities for employment at a neighbouring trading estate throughout the year, these were restricted mainly to females and men in the lower age groups. Prospects for unemployed, unskilled men in the older age groups were poor.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births—Live Births.				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	Legitimate	...	...	294	251	545
	Illegitimate	...	...	11	16	27
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				305	267	572

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population: 16.4.

Still births.				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	Legitimate	...	...	6	5	11
	Illegitimate	...	...	—	1	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				6	6	12

Still Births per 1,000 live and still births: 20.5.

				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Total Births (live and still)	...	...	...	311	273	584
Total Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population: 16.1.						

INFANT DEATHS.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year:				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	Legitimate	...	...	7	6	13
	Illegitimate	...	...	1	—	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				8	6	14

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks (Neonatal).

				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	Legitimate	...	...	7	6	13
	Illegitimate	...	...	1	—	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				8	6	14

Deaths of Infants under 1 week.				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	Legitimate	...	...	5	6	11
	Illegitimate	...	...	1	—	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				6	6	12

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births. Total	...	...	24.5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births. Legitimate	...	...	23.85
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births. Illegitimate	...	...	37.04
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	24.5
Early Neo-natal mortality rate (1st week) per 1,000 live births	...	...	20.98
Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	41.1
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	4.7

DEATHS.

Male: 262. Female: 223. Total: 485.

Death rate per 1,000 of the population: 13.2.

Table of Rates as compared with England and Wales—

	Sedgefield R.D.	England and Wales.
Live birth rate per 1,000 population ...	16.4	16.5
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	20.5	21.0
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births...	24.5	22.2
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	24.5	15.8
Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and still births	41.1	34.2
Maternal mortality rate excluding abortion	Nil.	0.32
Maternal mortality rate due to abortion ...	Nil.	0.06
Total maternal mortality	Nil.	0.38
Death rate per 1,000 population (all ages)	13.2	11.6

**Table of Birth Rates and Death Rates for the past 20 years
(1940—1959) as compared with Rates for England and Wales.**

Year.	General Death Rate.		Infantile Mortality Rate.		Total Birth Rate.	
	Sedgefield	England and Wales	Sedgefield	England and Wales	Sedgefield	England and Wales
1940	13.83	14.3	50.81	55	17.74	15.15
1941	10.78	12.9	73	59	17.80	15.70
1942	9.71	11.6	71.80	49	19.44	16.34
1943	10.53	12.1	65.30	49	18.45	17.01
1944	10.73	11.6	48.74	46	21.61	18.11
1945	9.96	11.4	58.29	46	20.56	16.56
1946	10.65	11.5	45.80	43	20.59	19.63
1947	10.33	12.0	37.70	41	20.54	21.00
1948	10.25	10.8	47.69	34	18.20	18.32
1949	10.68	11.7	63.04	32	17.41	17.09
1950	11.26	11.6	33.51	29.8	16.91	16.17
1951	12.28	12.5	35.27	29.6	17.31	15.86
1952	11.03	11.3	34.2	27.6	18.48	15.3
1953	16.02	11.4	32.6	26.8	16.59	15.85
1954	15.76	11.3	25.39	25.5	*14.19	*15.2
1955	15.94	11.7	23.5	24.9	*15.3	*15.0
1956	13.50	11.7	24.95	23.8	*15.6	*15.7
1957	12.6	11.5	38.4	23.1	*16.5	*16.1
1958	12.26	11.7	28.86	22.6	*16.96	*16.4
1959	13.2	11.6	24.5	22.2	*16.4	*16.5

* Live birth rate.

The population increased from 36,120 in 1958 to 36,290 in the year under review.

The area comparability factors make allowances for boundary changes and for differences in age and sex distribution and, in addition, the death area comparability factor takes account of the presence of residential institutions. The use of these factors makes the rates comparable with the crude birth and death rates for England and Wales and with similarly adjusted rates for other districts.

Comparability factors for your district are—

Births: 1.04. Deaths: 0.99.

Live Births.

There was a very small drop in the number of live births, giving a slightly lower rate than that for 1958 and one almost the same as that for the country.

Still Births.

The number of still births decreased from 15 in 1958 to 12, giving a correspondingly lower rate and one slightly below the rate for England and Wales.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.

There was a further drop in the number of infant deaths—14 as compared with 17 in 1958 and 22 in 1957. An unusual feature of the infant mortality is that no deaths occurred after the neo-natal period as will be seen in the following table:—

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Under 1 week	6	6
1 week and under 2 weeks	1	—
2 weeks and under 3 weeks	1	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	14	

Deaths in 4 weeks to 1 year period: Nil.

The causes of infant deaths were as follows:—

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Prematurity	2	3
Prematurity with atelectasis	1	1
Hyaline membrane disease of lungs	1	—
Congenital malformations	3	1
Birth injury	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	14	

It will be seen from the above table that all deaths were due to pre-natal causes or birth injury.

DEATHS — ALL AGES

The death rate is again higher than the rate for England and Wales and also above the 1958 rate.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>						<i>Percentage of total.</i>
		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>			
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	4	—			0.8
„ Non-respiratory	...	—	—			—
Syphilitic disease	...	1	—			0.2
Diphtheria	...	—	—			—
Whooping cough	...	—	—			—
Meningococcal infection	...	—	—			—
Acute poliomyelitis	...	—	—			—
Measles	...	—	—			—
Other infective and parasitic diseases		—	1			0.2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	8	4	2.5	} 16.7	
„ „ lungs, bronchus	...	17	2	3.9		
„ „ breast	...	—	6	1.2		
„ „ uterus	...	—	1	0.2		
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	27	16	8.9		
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	—	3			0.6
Diabetes	...	—	1			0.2
Vascular lesions of nervous system		29	34	12.9	} 60.2	
Coronary disease, angina	...	58	39	20.0		
Hypertension with heart disease	...	10	7	3.5		
Other heart disease	...	35	54	18.4		
Other circulatory disease	...	17	9	5.4		
Influenza	...	2	1			0.6
Pneumonia	...	8	8			3.1
Bronchitis	...	4	4			1.7
Other diseases of respiratory system		2	2			0.8
Ulcer, stomach and duodenum	...	1	—			0.2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	2	1			0.6
Nephritis and nephrosis	...	3	2			1.0
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	—	—			—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	—			—
Congenital malformations	...	3	3			1.2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases		14	17			6.4
Motor Vehicle accidents	...	6	—			1.2
All other accidents	...	9	7			3.3
Suicide	...	2	1			0.6
Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—			—
ALL CAUSES		262	223			

A scrutiny of the above table will show that coronary disease caused the largest number of deaths, with heart disease in second place. In previous years heart disease has been the largest cause with coronary disease second. Diseases of heart and arteries grouped together accounted for 60 per cent. of the total deaths.

The third largest single cause was malignant disease, which showed a considerable increase in deaths from lung cancer, but a slight drop in all other forms of the disease.

Comparative table of rates for certain diseases.

				Sedgefield R.D. (per 1,000 population).	England and Wales.
Deaths, all causes	...	...	...	13.2	11.6
Cancer, lungs and bronchus	...	...	...	0.5	0.464
All other cancer	...	...	...	1.7	1.676
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	1.7	1.65
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	2.7	1.87
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	0.47	0.25
Other heart disease	...	...	...	2.45	1.58
Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	0.7	0.52
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	0.11	0.077
Tuberculosis, other forms	...	...	...	Nil	0.008
Influenza	...	...	...	0.08	0.175
Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	Nil	0.001
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.44	0.6

It will be seen in the above table that the rates for malignant disease are very similar to the rates for the country generally.

Age Groups of Deaths.

Under 4 wks.		4 wks.—		1 yr.—		5 yrs.—		10 yrs.—		15 yrs.—		20 yrs.—	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
8	6	—	—	1	4	1	1	—	—	1	—	2	—
25 yrs.—		30 yrs.—		35 yrs.—		40 yrs.—		45 yrs.—		50 yrs.—		55 yrs.—	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	1	4	2	11	2	5	4	9	8	14	7	21	10
60 yrs.—		65 yrs.—		70 yrs.—		75 yrs.—		80 yrs.—		85 yrs.—		90 yrs. and over.	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
26	15	32	29	32	40	42	39	40	27	9	23	3	5

Approximately 36 per cent. of male and 42 per cent. of female deaths occurred at ages 75 years and over. These percentages are very similar to those for the previous year.

MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS.

	Under 25		25 and under 35.		35 and under 40.		40 and under 45.		45 and under 50.		50 and under 55.		55 and under 60.		60 and under 65.		65 and under 70.		70 and under 75.		75 and over.		TOTAL	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Stomach ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	2	3	0	8	4
Lung & Bronchus	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	—	2	—	4	—	2	—	2	—	18	1
Breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	6
Uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Buccal cavity and Pharynx ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1
Digestive organs other than stomach	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	1	2	2	1	9	3	15	9
Respiratory system other than lung ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Genito-urinary organs other than uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	1	3	4
Other Sites ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	0	1	—	5	2
TOTALS ...	1	—	—	1	3	—	1	2	2	2	5	2	7	—	5	7	6	2	7	5	16	7	52	29

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

An epidemic of measles and an increased incidence of whooping cough were responsible for a greatly increased number of notifications—664, as compared with 162 the previous year.

Apart from this there is little on which to comment. There was a decrease in cases of scarlet fever, of dysentery and of puerperal pyrexia. The one case of paralytic poliomyelitis made a good recovery. This child had not completed his vaccination against the disease, having received only one injection. No case of food poisoning was notified from the district but one case was discovered in a hospital patient.

Case Rates as compared with England and Wales:—

				England and Wales	Sedgefield Rural District
				(Rates per 1,000 Population).	
NOTIFICATIONS:— (Corrected)					
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1.055	0.44
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0.73	2.04
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.07	0.055
Measles	...	...	...	11.9	14.6
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.59	0.25
Poliomyelitis, Paralytic	...	...	...	0.016	0.027
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	0.22	0.027
Dysentery	...	...	...	0.78	0.19
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	(a) 13.99	(a) 17.12
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	...	0.54	0.303
„ Meninges and C.N.S.	...	...	...	0.005	—
„ Other	...	...	...	0.06	0.082

A Dash (—) Signifies a Nil Return.

(a) per 1000 total (live and still) births.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases as notified in the whole district set out in age groups.

Disease.	At all Ages.		Under 1		1 & 2		3 & 4		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 and over.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet Fever ...	3	13	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	39	35	4	2	5	5	8	6	22	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	289	241	6	8	64	69	80	61	137	103	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	2	—	—	1	—
Meninges & C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2
Dysentery ...	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	8	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	4	1	2	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	352	315	11	10	70	75	88	70	164	135	6	—	2	10	2	8	6	4	3	3

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases after correction in the whole district set out in age groups.

Disease.	At all Ages.		Under 1		1 & 2		3 & 4		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 and over.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet Fever ...	3	13	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	39	35	4	2	5	5	8	6	22	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	289	241	6	8	64	69	80	61	137	103	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	6	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
Meninges & C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	*10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	8	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	2	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	352	312	11	10	70	75	88	70	164	135	6	—	2	10	2	8	6	3	3	1

*These cases were notified from a maternity hospital.

Three cases were admitted to isolation hospitals—one whooping cough, one measles, and one poliomyelitis.

Table of Confirmed Cases of Infectious Diseases by Parishes.

PARISH.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Measles.	Polio-myelitis.		Tuberculosis.			Dysentery.	Puerperal pyrexia.	Acute Primary Pneumonia.	Influenzial Pneumonia.	Food poisoning.	Erysipelas	TOTALS
				Paralytic.	Non-paralytic.	Respiratory.	Meninges.	Other forms.							
Bishop Middleham	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Bradbury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Butterwick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chilton	2	14	112	—	—	1	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	136
Cornforth	—	—	21	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
Elstob	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Embleton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ferryhill	6	3	181	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	3	2	—	—	200
Fishburn	1	57	66	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	125
Foxton and Shotton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mainsforth	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Mordon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Preston-le-Skerne	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sedgefield	1	—	10	—	—	5	—	1	—	*10	*3	—	*1	1	32
Stillington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trimdon	4	—	133	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	139
Windlestone	1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Woodham	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	16	74	530	1	—	11	—	3	7	10	6	3	1	2	664

*These cases occurred in hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1959.

Age Periods			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
1—5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
6—10	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
11—15	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
16—20	...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
21—25	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
26—35	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	
36—45	...	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	
46—55	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	
56—65	...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	
66 and over	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
		6	5	—	3	3	—	—	—	
		11		3		3		—		
		14				3				

Whilst the number of non-respiratory tuberculosis notifications during the year under review was the same as the previous year, new cases of respiratory tuberculosis decreased by two.

Respiratory tuberculosis caused three deaths during 1959 as against four in 1958. There were no deaths from non-respiratory tuberculosis during the year as compared with one for the previous year.

Tuberculosis Mortality Rate.

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Respiratory ...	0.277	0.19	0.11	0.19	0.11	0.11
Non-Respiratory ...	Nil.	0.03	0.03	Nil.	0.028	Nil.

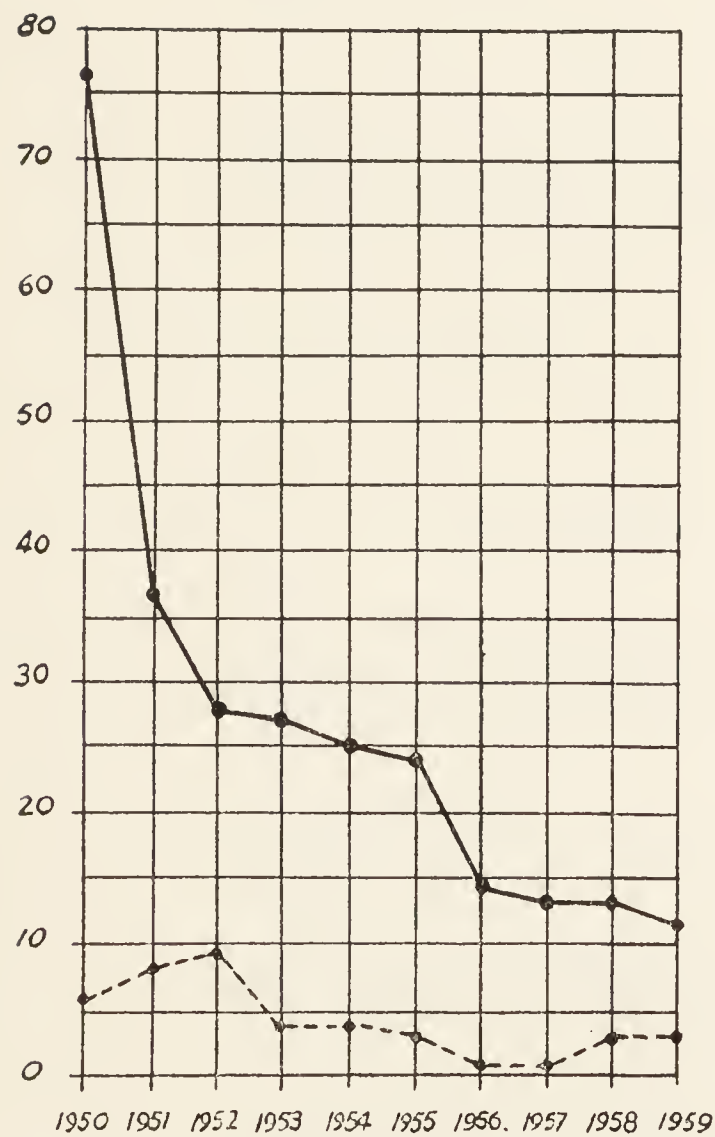
Number of Cases on Register at 31st December, 1959.

Respiratory.			Non-Respiratory.			Total cases
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
96	84	180	22	25	47	227

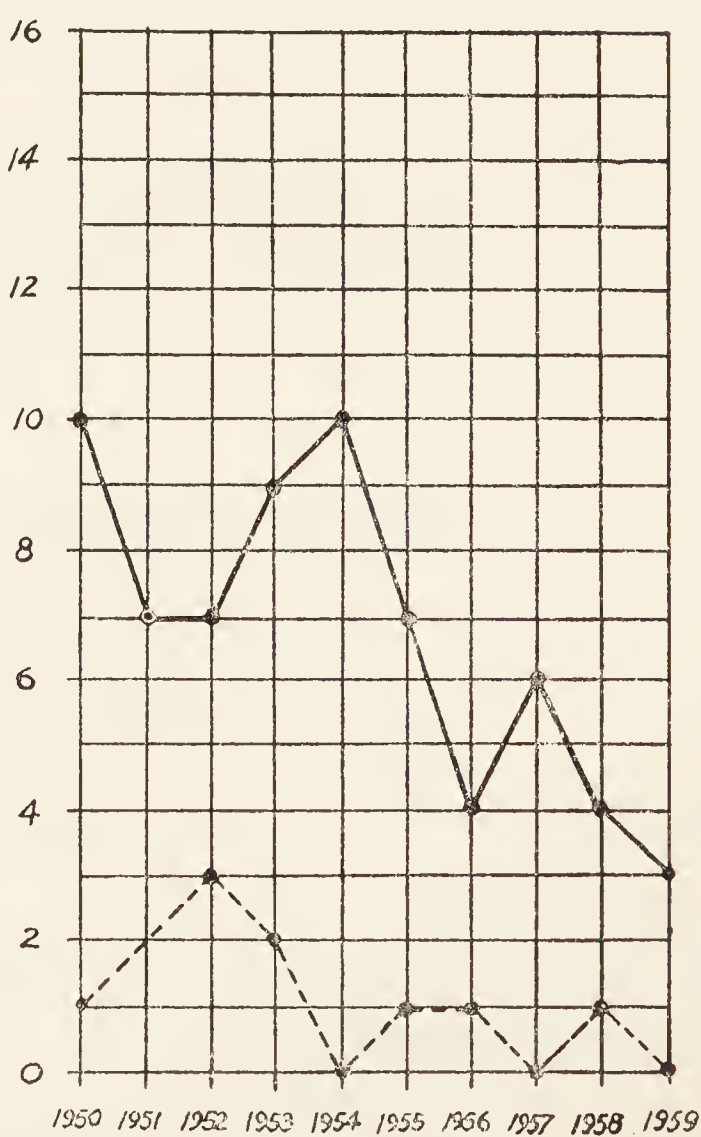
Table and Graphs showing new cases and mortality during the past 10 years.

Year	New Cases				Mortality			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1950	54	23	3	3	7	3	1	—
1951	29	8	4	4	4	3	1	1
1952	12	16	3	6	5	2	1	2
1953	17	10	2	2	5	4	—	2
1954	9	16	3	1	6	4	—	—
1955	11	13	1	2	5	2	—	1
1956	9	5	—	1	4	—	—	1
1957	7	6	—	1	4	2	—	—
1958	11	2	1	2	3	1	1	—
1959	6	5	—	3	3	—	—	—

NEW CASES



MORTALITY



RESPIRATORY —————
NON - RESPIRATORY - - - - -

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

Total number of outbreaks ...	...	Nil.
Number of cases ...	...	Nil.
Number of deaths ...	...	Nil.
Organisms or other agents responsible ...	...	Nil.
Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food		Nil.

SINGLE CASES

Number of cases ...	...	4
Number of deaths ...	...	Nil.
Organisms or other agents responsible :—		
Salmonella Enteritidis ...		1
Salmonella Thompson ...		1
Salmonella Blockley ...		1
*Salmonella Untyped ...		1

*Due to an outbreak of food poisoning in the Tees-side area involving one or all of nine different strains, it was impracticable for the Public Health Laboratory to isolate and identify types in each specimen at that particular time.

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47.

This section gives local authorities power to deal with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people.

No statutory action was taken under this section during the year.

Persons in this category were either willing to enter hostels or were able to stay in their own homes with the assistance of domestic helps.

During 1959, 38 persons were maintained in residential institutions and at the end of the year five persons were on the waiting list for admission.

Domestic help was given in 210 cases, all but three of these being old age pensioners.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

The numbers of persons vaccinated or immunised in the district for which records were received during 1959 are as follows—

Smallpox.

	Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15 yrs. and over.	Total.
Vaccinated ...	174	7	3	7	11	202
Re-vaccinated	—	—	3	4	16	23

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

	Primary Immunisations				Re-inforcing Injections			
	Under 1	1-4	5-14	Total	Under 1	1-4	5-14	Total
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough	293	58	9	360	—	12	10	22
Diphtheria ...	10	6	53	69	—	21	32	53
Whooping Cough	9	4	1	14	—	—	—	—

Poliomyelitis.

	1st Injections	2nd Injections	3rd Injections
Children	1,563	1,694	1,963
Expectant Mothers ...	74	95	
Young Persons	387	445	
TOTALS ...	2,024	2,234	1,963

In the above table on poliomyelitis vaccination, no account is taken of injections given at doctors' surgeries.

BACTERIOLOGICAL REPORT

FAECES.

No. of Specimens.	Enteric. Positive.	Dysentery. Positive.	Food Poisoning. Positive.	Other Organisms. Positive.
119	Nil.	26	12	Nil.

SPUTUM.

No. of Specimens.	Tubercle. Positive.
8	6

RECTAL SWAB.

No. of Specimens.	Dysentery Positive.
1	Nil.

WATER AND ICE CREAM.

	No. of Samples.	Class.			
		1	2	3	4
Water	9	6	--	2	1
Ice cream	19	6	6	4	3

Health Services administered in your area by the Local Health Authority.

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER—

Dr. G. Wilson, Shire Hall, Durham (Tel. Durham 4411).

ASSISTANT COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER—

Dr. M. W. Rodgers, Council Offices, Sedgefield (Tel. Sedgefield 555).

Information on any of the services listed below may be obtained on application to the above-named.

WELFARE SERVICES

(a) RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION.—Accommodation is provided for persons who by reason of age, infirmity, or other circumstances, are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them. Although new accommodation is steadily being provided all available beds are occupied and there is a waiting list.

The position as regards persons of this district maintained by the County Council at residential hostels in 1959 was as follows:—

Males 23. Females 15.

In addition there were five persons on the waiting list, two males and three females.

(b) BLIND PERSONS.—A comprehensive service is provided which includes medical examination, home visiting and teaching, assistance in obtaining suitable employment in workshops or at home, admission to homes for the blind, and general social welfare. A residential hostel, reserved for blind persons, is situated in Durham City.

Registered blind persons in this district during 1959 were as follows:—

Males 37. Females 38.

(c) OTHER HANDICAPPED PERSONS.—Certain welfare services are available for persons who are deaf and dumb, partially sighted, or substantially and permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenital deformity. The numbers of registered persons in these categories from the Sedgefield Rural District are given below:—

	Male	Female
No. of Registered Partially-Sighted Persons ...	11	12
No. of Registered Deaf and Dumb Persons ...	31	14
No. of Registered Hard of Hearing Persons ...	58	18
No. of Registered Handicapped Persons ...	17	20

Domestic Help Service.

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, an expectant mother, lying-in, mentally defective, aged or a child not over school age. A charge is normally made for this service, but in certain circumstances the charge may be reduced or remitted altogether.

No. of home helps employed	...	...	...	100
Cases served at 1st January, 1959	...	...	...	154
New cases provided during year	...	...	...	56
Total number which received service during year	...	...	...	*210
Cases served at 31st December, 1959	...	...	...	172

*This total is divided into the following categories:—

Old age pensioners 207; sickness 2; tuberculosis 1.

Home Nursing.

The services of a home nurse are available anywhere in the County.

Visits made by district nurses in your district during 1959 were as follows:—

	Cases Visited.	No. of Visits.
Medical cases	621	15,392
Surgical cases	285	3,384
Tuberculosis	18	686

Domiciliary Midwifery Service.

Names and addresses of the midwives available can be obtained from the child welfare centres or medical practitioners.

Births attended by County Midwives during the year were:—

Total live and still births (domiciliary)	...	...	197
Cases attended as midwife and nurse	...	...	197
Hospital patients discharged home before 14th day	...	...	80
Total cases attended	...	...	277

Health Visiting.

The health visitors visit persons in their homes for the purpose of giving advice on the care of young children, to expectant and nursing mothers, and to aged or ill persons, and to stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. They provide the link between the home and the County Health Department.

Visits made by Health Visitors:—

	No of Visits.
Maternity and Child Welfare	6,458
Tuberculosis	528
General Health	113
Mental Deficiency	269
School	883
Aged People	223

Ambulance Service.

The County Council provides a free ambulance service for persons in the area for whom ambulance transport is *necessary*. In an emergency any responsible person may summon an ambulance by telephone by asking to be connected to the nearest ambulance message receiving centre (no telephone number need be given). As a general rule, however, requests for the use of an ambulance should originate from hospitals, doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists or the police. A doctor in attendance may give a patient or a relative a note certifying in advance the need for ambulance transport and this certificate should be posted or taken to the nearest ambulance message receiving centre.

Relatives or friends of out-patients attending hospital for treatment cannot be carried except for some special reason, in which case an application to the County Medical Officer of Health, Shire Hall, Durham, will be considered sympathetically.

Number of journeys undertaken	...	...	...	3,774
Cases carried (a) stretcher cases	...	...	...	1,492
(b) sitting cases	...	...	...	10,757
Mileage covered	...	...	...	82,573

(It should be noted that these figures include patients from areas other than the rural district and that the conveyance of patients residing in the rural district is not restricted to Fishburn Depot, but may be undertaken by vehicles from other depots passing through the area).

Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.

Nursing equipment is provided for sick persons at the request of medical practitioners, district nurses, and hospital almoners. Invalid chairs are also available and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis. A charge is normally made for this service, but in certain circumstances the charge may be reduced or remitted altogether.

A sound film projector and a film strip projector are available for the showing of films on health matters to selected audiences and the general public anywhere in the county.

Eighty-eight patients in the rural district were supplied with a wide range of nursing equipment during the year.

Mental Health Service.

Services are available for children and young adults who are mentally retarded and training can be given in the homes of patients. There are occupation centres to serve certain areas of the county. The address of the duly authorised officer for the Sedgefield area, from whom information on these services may also be obtained, is: 69 Thorntree Gill, Peterlee, Co. Durham (Tel. Peterlee 409).

Number of persons registered as mental defectives	...	134
Number under supervision in their own homes	...	85
Number in hospitals for mental defectives	...	49

Residential Nurseries.

Residential nurseries are available for certain cases and information regarding these may be obtained from the Children's Officer, Crossgate Moor, Durham (Tel. Durham 3311).

Number of children in Children's Homes, Nurseries
and Boarded Out as at 31st December, 1959 ... 16

Number of children in Approved Schools as at 31st
December, 1959 2

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

- (a) DAY NURSERIES: Day nurseries are provided at:—
Tame Street, Haverton Hill (Tel. Middlesbrough 57129).
Durham Road, Stockton (Tel. Stockton 66940).
Norton Road, Stockton (Tel. Stockton 66555).

Application for admission should be made to the matrons.

- (b) CONVALESCENT HOMES: The E.F. Peile Convalescent Home, Shotley Bridge, is controlled by the County Council and admits nursing mothers with their babies and children under five years of age. Limited accommodation is also available in convalescent homes provided by voluntary agencies.

- (c) UNMARRIED MOTHERS: Arrangements have been made for the provision of help and advice to unmarried mothers by the staff of the Durham Diocesan Moral Welfare Association. Accommodation is available in the Mother and Baby Home, Smelt House, Howden-le-Wear, and in Homes administered by voluntary agencies.

- (d) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES: Maternity and child welfare centres maintained by the County Council and covering your district are as follows:—

<i>Address of Centre.</i>	<i>Sessions.</i>
CHILTON. Red Cross Station.	Ante-Natal Clinic— Alternate Wednesday mornings. Child Welfare Clinic— Alternate Wednesday afternoons.

<i>Address of Centre.</i>	<i>Sessions.</i>
<p>COXHOE.</p> <p>Social & Literary Institute. and Village Hall.</p> <p>Tel. Coxhoe 344.</p>	<p>Ante-natal, Birth Control and Post-natal Clinics— Alternate Tuesday mornings.</p> <p>Child Welfare Clinic— Alternate Thursdays and alternate Tuesday afternoons.</p> <p>Ultra Violet Ray Clinic— Alternate Tuesday after- noons and Friday after- noons weekly from 2-30 to 3-30 p.m.</p>
<p>FERRYHILL.</p> <p>Back Dean Road.</p>	<p>Ante-natal Clinic— Fridays weekly alternate with Friday mornings weekly.</p> <p>Child Welfare Clinic— Tuesdays weekly.</p> <p>Ultra Violet Ray Clinic— Tuesday afternoons weekly and Friday afternoons weekly.</p>
<p>FISHBURN.</p> <p>Miners' Welfare Hall.</p>	<p>Child Welfare Clinic— Alternate Monday afternoons.</p>
<p>SEDFIELD.</p> <p>County Surveyor's Office. Tel. Sedgfield 221.</p>	<p>Child Welfare Clinic— Alternate Tuesdays.</p>
<p>TRIMDON.</p> <p>Back Peel Avenue, Trimdon Grange.</p>	<p>Ante-Natal Clinic— Alternate Friday afternoons.</p> <p>Child Welfare Clinic— Alternate Fridays.</p>

(e) WELFARE FOODS: National dried milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and vitamin tablets for mothers and babies are distributed from the following centres on the days shown:—

BISHOP MIDDLEHAM, Village Hall.	Alternate Tuesday afternoons.
CHILTON, Red Cross Station ...	Alternate Wednesdays all day.
COXHOE, Village Hall	Tuesdays and Alternate Thursdays, all day.
FERRYHILL, Back Dean Road ...	Tuesdays all day.
FISHBURN, Miners' Welfare Hall	Alternate Mondays all day.
SEDGEFIELD, Surveyor's Office ...	Alternate Tuesdays all day.
TRIMDON GRANGE, Back Peel Ave.	Alternate Thursdays all day.

Sessions :- Morning: 10-30 — 12 Noon.
Afternoons : 1-30 — 3-30 p.m.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any medical practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service. Facilities are also available for the vaccination of children at maternity and child welfare centres.

Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough may be carried out on application to maternity and child welfare centres or to any general practitioners operating in the National Health Service, free of charge.

Arrangements were completed during the year to provide B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis for school children in the district aged from 13 years upwards and it was expected that the scheme would be put into operation early in 1960. In certain circumstances B.C.G. vaccination may also be carried out by the chest physicians at the chest clinics and in such cases applications should be made direct.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis is available to persons between the ages of six months and 40 years together with older persons in certain categories who might come into contact with poliomyelitis cases in the course of their work.

Services administered in your area by the Regional Hospital Board.

Maternity Homes are controlled by the Regional Hospital Board.

Tuberculosis Services.

There are no chest clinics in the Sedgefield Rural District, but residents of the area are served by clinics at West Hartlepool, Stockton, Darlington and Bishop Auckland as follows:—

Clinic.	Sessions.																									
Brierton Hospital. Brierton Lane. West Hartlepool. Tel. 5555-6.	All cases by appointment only.																									
Cleveland House, Bowesfield Lane, Stockton-on-Tees. Tel. 64251.	All cases by appointment only.																									
Memorial Hospital, Hundens Lane Unit, Darlington. Tel. 2793.	All cases by appointment only.																									
“Ninefields,” Etherley Lane, Bp. Auckland. Tel. 632.	<i>Out-Patient Consultative Sessions—</i> <table><tr><td>Monday</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>9—10-30</td><td>a.m.</td></tr><tr><td>Tuesday</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>9—10-30</td><td>a.m.</td></tr><tr><td>Wednesday</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>2— 2-30</td><td>p.m.</td></tr><tr><td>Thursday</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>9—10-30</td><td>a.m.</td></tr><tr><td>Friday</td><td>...</td><td>...</td><td>9—10-30</td><td>a.m.</td></tr></table> <i>Contact Clinic—</i> Monday, 2-0 p.m. <i>Open Chest X-ray Service—</i> Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 2-0 p.m.	Monday	9—10-30	a.m.	Tuesday	9—10-30	a.m.	Wednesday	2— 2-30	p.m.	Thursday	9—10-30	a.m.	Friday	9—10-30	a.m.
Monday	9—10-30	a.m.																						
Tuesday	9—10-30	a.m.																						
Wednesday	2— 2-30	p.m.																						
Thursday	9—10-30	a.m.																						
Friday	9—10-30	a.m.																						

Treatment of Venereal Disease.

There are no Special Treatment Clinics in the Sedgefield area but consultations may be obtained as shown below:—

STOCKTON AND THORNABY HOSPITAL.

Tuesdays	...	...	2-00 p.m. — 4-00 p.m.	Females
Tuesdays	...	...	4-30 p.m. — 6-30 p.m.	Males
Saturdays	...	...	9-00 a.m. — 10-30 a.m.	Males

GENERAL HOSPITAL, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Mondays	...	...	2-00 p.m. — 4-00 p.m.	Females
Thursdays	...	...	5-00 p.m. — 7-00 p.m.	Males

DURHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL.

Mondays	...	...	2-00 p.m. — 4-00 p.m.	Females
Mondays	...	...	4-30 p.m. — 6-00 p.m.	Males

HUNDENS HOSPITAL, DARLINGTON.

Tuesdays	...	10-0 a.m. — 12 noon.	Males.
Wednesdays	...	2-00 p.m. — 4-00 p.m.	Females
Fridays	...	2-00 p.m. — 4-00 p.m.	Males
Fridays	...	4-00 p.m. — 7-00 p.m.	Males

General and Maternity Accommodation.

Full consultant service is provided at Sedgefield General Hospital and Hardwick Hall Maternity Home in the following specialities: Gynaecology, Medical, Orthopaedic and Surgical cases. Departments of Pathology and Radiology are also available. The bed complement at these hospitals is 336 and 35 respectively.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Housing.

During the year four new Council houses were completed and occupied. The new houses are all of the traditional brick type and are situated as follows:—

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>No. of Houses.</i>		
Bp. Middleham	3
Chilton	1

This is the smallest number of houses completed in any year since the recommencement of building after the last war, and was brought about by the general economic situation.

In addition to the above, ten new private houses were completed and occupied as follows:—

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>No. of Houses.</i>		
Fishburn	2
Ferryhill	1
Windlestone	2
Sedgefield	3
Trimdon Village	1
Bradbury	1

Forty-four houses in First, Second and Third Cross Rows, Chilton Lane, 2-16 Maughan Street, and 11, 12, 13 and 13 Bk. George Street, West Cornforth, included in Clearance Areas, declared by the Council the previous year, were all acquired by private agreement except two. In these two cases the Council has found it necessary to institute proceedings to acquire the property under its compulsory purchase powers.

Nos. 3-14 Bell Street (12 houses), West Cornforth, were declared a Clearance Area by the Council and arrangements have been made for the Council to acquire them by private agreement.

In addition to property included in clearance areas, 20 houses were dealt with as individual unfit houses, by closing orders or demolition orders under the Housing Act, 1957.

During the year, 17 condemned houses were demolished but 65 condemned houses were still occupied at the end of the year as suitable accommodation was not available to rehouse the occupants. A total of 12 families comprising 25 persons were rehoused from condemned properties during 1959.

Closing and Demolition of Houses.

A. Formal Action.

(i)	No. of houses demolished during year as a result of Clearance Schemes and other formal action	...	17
(ii)	No. of houses <i>closed</i> but not demolished as a result of formal action	... ..	11
(iii)	No. of houses in Clearance Areas demolition of which was temporarily postponed	... ..	Nil.

B. Informal Action.

(i)	No. of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above	...	4
-----	---	-----	---

Reconditioning and Repair.

No. of houses made fit during year by procedure under either Housing or Public Health Acts :

(a)	As a result of informal action	... ..	155
(b)	By owners as a result of statutory notices	... ..	2
(c)	By Local Authority in default of owners	... ..	Nil.

Improvement Grants : Housing Act, 1949, and House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

Action during 1959.	No. of separate houses.	
	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
Applications submitted to Local Authority	210	10
Application rejected by Local Authority	1	—
Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme	565	10

Living Vans

During the year eight licences were granted for the use of individual caravans on separate sites in different parts of the area for residential purposes.

The number of young married couples acquiring modern types of living vans for residential purposes appears to be increasing in this area. In order to keep this type of development under control and to prevent nuisances from arising, it may be necessary in the future to consider other means of dealing with caravans than by licensing them on isolated individual sites.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

All Townships within your district are drained and sewered. The new West Cornforth sewage disposal works were nearing completion at the end of the year and should be in operation at the end of 1960. The proposed Mordon sewage works are still in the planning stage.

Works of maintenance have been carried out during the year.

The installation of domestic sewage disposal plants at outlying farms and other premises is still proceeding and every encouragement is given to the owners of such property to take advantage of the assistance offered by the provisions of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Sanitary Conversions.

Good progress was made during the year towards the goal of a 100 per cent. water carriage system throughout the district. A further 69 conversions have been carried out and most of the remaining ash-closets serve isolated dwellings or property which is either condemned or due for early condemnation.

Public Cleansing.

The whole of your district, except for some of the outlying farms and cottages, is dealt with by a direct labour scheme.

Three-quarters of the area received a twice-weekly collection and the rest was visited once a week. Disposal was by controlled tipping in seven disused quarries in the district, and during the year seven cleansing vehicles were on full-time collection.

In April a new service was introduced to cover a number of isolated and outlying dwellings following the recommendations of the special sub-committee appointed to consider the question of refuse collection from all outlying areas.

Trade refuse is collected on request for which a charge of 6d. per bin is made.

Street cleansing is carried out in conjunction with Durham County Council.

**Summary of work done in the Public Health
Inspectors' Department during the year 1959.**

	Number of Informal Notices served	Number of Statutory Notices served	Defects remedied after Notice.	Inspections
Housing :				
Public Health and Housing Acts.	226	—	678	1,478
Overcrowding.	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient.	4	—	4	6
Defective.	15	—	14	6
Drainage.	60	—	60	235
Water Supply.	9	—	9	9
Food Premises.	79	—	152	522
Shops Act.	—	—	—	—
Dairies.	—	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses :				
Public.	—	—	—	—
Private.	7	—	10	1,792
Tents, Vans, etc	14	—	13	61
Offensive Trades.	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workplaces.	3	—	6	58
Keeping of Animals.	1	—	1	1
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles.	19	—	17	20
Offensive accumulations.	13	—	13	13
Smoke Nuisances.	9	—	9	74
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.	11	—	25	166
Housing Management.	—	—	—	1,142
Refuse Tips and Collections.	4	—	4	397
Infectious Diseases.	—	—	—	221
Miscellaneous.	17	—	39	2,092
TOTAL.	491	—	1,054	8,293

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE — Progress Report on Schemes in Hand.

Name of scheme and Area to be served.	Water or Sewerage.	Date of Ministry of Health Inquiry.	Estimated Cost.	Date of Ministry of Health Approval.	Date commenced.	Date completed.	If in progress indicate stage.
West Cornforth Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Extension. West Cornforth.	Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.	March 19th, 1958.	£21,993.	July 18th, 1958	April, 1959.		
Mordon Sewage Disposal Works. Mordon.	Sewage Disposal.	Planning Stage.					

WATER SUPPLIES.

The bulk of the water in this area is supplied by the Durham County Water Board and the two main sources of supply are upland surface water and deep mine water. The new water softening plant at Mainsforth Colliery was in full operation during the year, and greatly eased the critical situation which arose because of the long, dry summer.

The following table shows the number of houses and the population served in the various parishes where the water supply is obtained by water mains direct to the houses or by means of standpipes.

Parish	No. of houses with direct pipe supply	Estimated population obtaining water as aforesaid	No. of houses with stand-pipe supply	Estimated population obtaining water from stand-pipe supplies
Bishop Middleham	355	1,083	—	—
Bradbury	48	147	4	12
Butterwick	14	43	—	—
Chilton	2,019	6,158	—	—
Cornforth	1,323	4,046	—	—
Elstob	12	37	—	—
Embleton	20	61	—	—
Ferryhill	3,520	10,736	—	—
Fishburn	905	2,760	—	—
Foxton and Shotton	12	38	—	—
Mainsforth	76	233	—	—
Preston-le-Skerne ...	22	67	—	—
Mordon	45	138	—	—
Sedgefield	775	4,364	—	—
Stillington	50	153	—	—
Trimdon	1,860	5,673	3	8
Woodham (excluding Aycliffe Approved School ...	68	310	—	—
Windlestone	40	122	—	—

During the year nine samples of drinking water were taken at various points in the district and submitted for bacteriological examination. Six were classed as satisfactory, five as Class I and one as Class II. Two Class III results were received but subsequent samples from the same source proved to be Class I.

A sample from Mordon Cottage pump showed the source to be contaminated and the occupier was warned not to use the water from the pump for domestic consumption as a mains piped water supply was available.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

In your district there are 230 food shops, 50 public houses, 12 clubs, 7 colliery canteens and 1 central kitchen.

Details of the types of food shops are given in the following table :-

Township.	General Provisions.	Cake shops and Sweetshops	Butchery	Ice-Cream and Snack Bars.	Fish Businesses	Green-grocery.
Bishop Middleham	4	—	1	—	1	—
Chilton ...	13	5	3	—	4	2
Cornforth ...	18	6	3	1	5	—
Ferryhill and Chilton Lane ...	51	12	11	2	11	2
Fishburn ...	10	1	2	2	3	1
Sedgefield ...	8	4	2	2	2	1
Trimdon Colliery ...	6	—	1	—	1	1
Trimdon Grange ...	9	2	1	—	1	—
Trimdon Village ...	8	1	2	2	2	—
Total	127	31	26	9	30	7

The majority of the above premises are of the house and shop type and are run by the family without outside assistance.

Routine shop inspections were carried out periodically during the year. The general standard of hygiene was satisfactory.

Premises Licensed under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Eleven additional premises were registered in 1959 for the sale of ice-cream. These are included in the above table.

Ice-cream sampling was concentrated chiefly on street traders and where unsatisfactory results were first obtained, follow-up samples were taken in conjunction with the Health Departments of areas from which the traders' supplies originated.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or part.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
Number killed ...	1,305	14	1	3,278	1,024	—
Number inspected ...	1,305	14	1	3,278	1,024	..
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	—	—	2	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	411	—	—	45	94	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- eases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	31.5	—	—	1.43	9.1	—
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	28	2	—	—	4	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	2.14	14.28	—	—	0.39	—
Cysticercosis.						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Regular visits were made to the 16 slaughterhouses in the area and 100 per cent. inspection of all carcasses and offal was maintained throughout the year, which necessitated a total of 1,768 visits made by the three meat inspectors.

The statistics show that the high quality of meat slaughtered in this area has been maintained throughout the year. Only three animals were condemned out of 5,622 inspected, all other condemnations being concerned only with offal and localised conditions which in no way affected either the quality of the meat or its fitness for human consumption.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed and inspected ...	1,305	14	1	3,278	1,024
Number of Carcases condemned ...	1	—	—	2	—
Number of Animals affected with—					
Tuberculosis ...	28	2	—	—	4
Fascioliasis (liver fluke) ...	371	—	—	26	—
Abscess, liver	18	—	—	2	—
„ lungs ...	5	—	—	—	—
Pleurisy ...	4	—	—	—	5
Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	5	75
Parasites ...	—	—	—	9	1

Carcases and part carcases condemned.

Animal.	Disease or Condition.	Carcase			Offal		
		Cwt.	St.	Lbs.	Cwt.	St.	Lbs.
Heifer carcase and all offal	Extensive bruising and fevered condition ...	5	0	0	1	1	4
Sheep carcase and all offal	Septic pneumonia and pleurisy ...	0	4	2	0	1	0
Sheep carcase and all offal	Pyæmia ...	0	4	4	0	1	1
Sheep loin ...	Abscesses ...	0	0	7			
Sheep loin ...	Peritonitis ...	0	1	0			
2 Pig's legs ...	Broken, with bruised flesh	0	0	12			
Total Weight ...		6	2	11	1	3	5

Detailed analysis of condemned meat for the year 1959.

Organ.			Disease.		Number Affected.	Weight.		
						Cwt.	St.	Lbs.
BOVINE								
Liver	...	...	Fascioliasis	...	82	8	:	6 : 4
Part Liver	...	...	"		289	15	:	3 : 12
Liver	...	...	Abscesses	...	14	1	:	4 : 0
Part Liver	...	...	"		4			1 : 10
Liver	...	...	Tuberculosis	...	5			4 : 4
			Adinoma	...	1			12
Lungs	...	...	Tuberculosis	...	21	1	:	7 : 0
			Pleurisy	...	4			2 : 12
			Abscesses & Fluke		9			6 : 6
			Pneumonia	...	1			10
Head	...	...	Actinomycosis	...	2			4 : 0
			Tuberculosis	...	5			10 : 0
Head and Tongue	...	...	Tuberculosis	...	7	1	:	7 : 0
			Cysticercosis	...	1			2 : 2
			Actinobacillosis	...	4			8 : 8
			Abscesses	...	1			2 : 2
Intestines	...	...	Tuberculosis	...	2			4 : 0
			Pentastomum					
			denticulatum	...	1			2 : 0
Skirt	...	...	Tuberculosis	...	3			6
			Cysticercosis	...	1			2
Spleen	...	...	Tuberculosis	...	2			2
Stomach	...	...	Traumatism	...	1			2 : 2
Heart	...	...	Cysticercosis	...	1			4
Kidneys	...	...	Nephritis	...	2			4
			Retention Cyst	...	1			2
PIGS								
Liver	...	...	Milkspots	...	5			1 : 6
			Tuberculosis	...	1			4
			Parasites	...	1			4
			Adinoma	...	1			4
			Fatty change	...	1			4
			Hepatitis	...	1			4
Lungs and Heart	...	...	Pneumonia	...	4			1 : 4
			Pleurisy	...	4			1 : 4
Pluck	...	...	Pleurisy and					
			peritonitis	...	1			7
Head and Tongue	...	...	Tuberculosis	...	4			3 : 6
Heart	...	...	Pericarditis	...	1			1
Kidneys	...	...	Nephritis	...	3			5
Intestines	...	...	Tuberculosis	...	1			7
Lungs	...	...	Pneumonia	...	71	1	:	2 : 2
SHEEP								
Liver	...	...	Fascioliasis	...	26			3 : 10
			Other parasitic					
			conditions	...	5			10
			Abscesses	...	2			4
Lungs	...	...	Pneumonia	...	5			5
			Parasitic	...	2			2
Lungs and Heart	...	...	Parasitic	...	1			2
Pluck	...	...	Parasitic	...	1			4
Liver	...	...	Pregnancy toxæmia		1			2
TOTAL WEIGHT ...						39	:	3 : 9

Once again it was not necessary officially to seize any food-stuffs although approximately 2 tons 15 cwts. of meat and other foods were condemned during the year. This was made up as follows:—

	Tons	Cwts.	St.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Offal	2	0	7	0	0
Carcase meat		6	2	11	0
Tinned fruit		2	0	7	0½
Tinned meat		2	6	4	15
Tinned tomatoes		1	5	7	2
Tinned vegetables			7	13	8
Tinned soups			1	1	9½
Tinned fish				8	5
Cod fillets			2	0	0

Tinned milk equivalent to 24½ pints.

With the exception of whole carcasses condemned, which after staining were forwarded to a knackers-yard, disposal of unsound food is carried out by burial in the Council's refuse tip.

MILK SUPPLIES.

All milk consumed in the area is supplied in sealed containers from pasteurising plants situated outside the district. There are therefore no premises registered as dairies by this authority.

The bulk of the milk is obtained either from the Milk Marketing Board's plant at Langley Bridge, Durham, or from Co-operative Societies. All of the milk consumed is either pasteurised or tuberculin tested.

In 1959 there were 60 distributors registered with this Authority for the sale of milk, and the following table shows the numbers of licences issued for that purpose:—

Licence.	"Pasteurised"	"Sterilised"	"Tuberculin tested."
Dealers ...	50	36	43
Supplementary ...	4	4	4
TOTALS ...	54	40	47

Atmospheric Pollution

Two standard deposit gauges are installed within the area, one on the Council housing estate at Ferryhill and the other close to the dolomite quarries and cupolas at Old Cornforth.

The following table gives the average results of the long analysis readings during 1959:—

	CORNFORTH.		FERRYHILL.	
	Tons per Sq. Mile.	Percentage of Total Solids.	Tons per Sq. Mile.	Percentage of Total Solids.
Total solids	22.95		10.94	
Undissolved solids ...	11.44	49.85	5.85	53.48
Dissolved matter ...	11.51	50.16	5.09	46.52
Tarry Matter ...	0.66	2.87	0.64	5.85
Ash	7.33	31.94	2.56	23.4
Combustible Matter...	3.44	15.7	2.64	24.13
Sulphate as SO-4 ...	4.14	18.04	1.73	15.81
Calcium Oxide as Calcium Carbonate	0.89	3.87		
Magnesium Oxide as Magnesium Carbonate ...	0.62	2.7		
pH Value	6.07		2.42	
Rainfall in inches ...	2.45		2.78	

The average total solids collected by the gauges at Cornforth and Ferryhill during 1959 showed a decrease of 38.65 per cent. and 20.07 per cent. respectively when compared with the previous year's figures. One of the factors accountable for the decrease was possibly the exceptionally dry summer.

Smoke Abatement

1. Number of observations relative to emissions during 1959... 44
2. Number of interviews and visits to Plants during 1959... 22
3. Number of visits to deposits gauges during 1959 ... 30
4. Types of Industries and/or Premises dealt with during 1959—
 Factory on Trading Estate.
 Collieries,
 Business Premises.
5. Works of improvement effected during 1959:—
 (a) *Smoke*. Increased dieselisation of Main Line trains. Colliery electrification scheme put under way. Defective incinerator replaced by new, improved type at a factory on trading estate. Two hundred and thirty approved Solid Fuel Burning Appliances installed in pre-war Council houses under Housing Improvements Scheme.
6. Number of Council houses erected during 1959 and fitted with Approved Solid Fuel Burning Appliances ... 4
7. Average monthly Total Deposits for the Local Authority district during 1959:—

<i>Type of Area.</i>		<i>Tons/Sq. Mile</i>
Semi-industrial	... ..	35.17
Residential	... ..	11.22

The smoke problem cannot be solved quickly. In 1945 the Simon Committee considered that with drive and energy the smoke nuisance could be virtually ended in from 20—30 years. Again the Beaver Committee considered that adequate action over a period of 20 years would be necessary to deal with all the problems involved.

Some progress has been made in this area by the adoption of bye-laws ensuring the installation of approved type fireplaces in all new dwelling houses and the conversion to approved type fireplaces in many pre-war Council houses. Considerable improvements have been achieved by the electrification of Collieries in the area and the conversion to diesel engines by British Railways.

It may be that the time is opportune for giving consideration to the further curtailment of atmospheric pollution from dwelling houses. All new housing estates readily lend themselves to conversion into smoke control areas, although as your district is chiefly a mining area the large amount of concessionary coal consumed raises obvious difficulties.

RODENT CONTROL.

The yearly treatment against rats in the sewers, sewage works and refuse tips in the Council's area was carried out in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food instruction.

The following is a summary of such treatment:—

Total number of manholes in foul and connected systems in the area treated	1,066
Number of manholes treated	751
Total number of manholes in the whole sewer system	1,997
Number of manholes showing take of bait ...	75

The following table gives details of other surveys and treatments carried out during the year:—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY.				
	Non-Agricultural.				(5) Agricul- tural.
	(1) Local Authority.	(2) Dwelling houses (inc. Council houses).	(3) All other (inc. Business Premises).	(4) Total of Columns (1) (2) and (3).	
I. No. of properties in local authority's district	84	10,784	1,380	12,248	284
II. No. of <i>properties inspected</i> as a result of—					
(a) Notification ...	6	102	44	152	12
(b) Survey ...	72	249	46	373	31
III. No. of <i>properties inspected</i> in Section II which were found to be infested by—					
(a) Rats Major ...	2	—	2	4	8
Minor ...	42	98	30	170	17
(b) Mice Major ...	—	2	3	5	—
Minor ...	2	39	18	59	—
IV. No. of <i>infested properties</i> in Section III treated by the Local Authority	46	137	50	233	24
V. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments	85	145	56	286	24
VI. No. of "Block control schemes carried out	—	2	3	5	—

The principal rodenticide used in the district is Warfarin. This poison is known as an "anticoagulant" because its main action on rodents is to prevent the blood from clotting with the result that rats and mice eating it tend to die of internal and external bleeding. Warfarin, against rats and mice, is used at a concentration at which these rodents are killed only if they feed from the bait for a number of days. With each treatment, therefore, several visits are necessary.

During the year 164 complaints were dealt with and all received immediate attention. Routine, periodic visits were also made to Council properties, particularly refuse tips and sewage works, and more attention was given to agricultural premises than in previous years.

Treatments against rats in sewers were carried out where previous infestations had existed and the final treatment during 1959 indicated a considerable reduction in the number of infestations.

A charge is made to the occupiers of business and agricultural properties at which treatments are undertaken by the Council's rodent operators but infestations in and around dwelling houses are dealt with free of charge.

List of By-laws in force in district.

<i>Date made.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
17th February, 1950.	Handling, wrapping and delivery of food, and sale of food in the open air.
27th July, 1950.	Sale of contraceptives in automatic machines.
5th January, 1951.	Control of Bulls.
16th June, 1952.	Noisy Hawking.
4th December, 1952.	Public Libraries Act, 1901. Section 3.
27th March, 1953.	Building Byelaws under Public Health Act, 1936.
9th December, 1953.	Deposit of mud and other materials on highways.
1st July, 1954.	Deposit of litter to detriment of public amenities.
1st June, 1955.	Nuisances contrary to public decency. (Parishes of Chilton, Cornforth, Ferryhill, Fishburn, Sedgefield and Trimdon).
1st June, 1955.	Fouling of footways by dogs. (Parishes of Bishop Middleham, Chilton, Cornforth, Ferryhill, Fishburn, Sedgefield and Trimdon).
1st July, 1958.	Amendment to Building Byelaws in respect of arrangements in buildings for preventing smoke.

Factories Act, 1937.

Coal mining is the principal industry in this area but is not registerable under the above-mentioned Act. Of the factories, the majority are small concerns employing no more than half-a-dozen persons.

During the year 58 visits were made to factories chiefly in connection with sanitary accommodation and informal action was necessary to remedy two conveniences which were in need of cleansing. Similar action was also taken in a case where insufficient sanitary accommodation was provided. In all instances the defects were satisfactorily remedied.

No list of outworkers was received during the year.

Premises	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	9	8	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	40	36	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	19	14	1	—
TOTAL ...	68	58	3	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	—	—

